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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Germany/Russian Zone

DATE:

INFO.

SUBJECT Defenses, Order of Battle and Troop Movements
 in the Halle Area, and Manuevers

DIST. 17 December 1940 50X1-HUM

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SUPPLEMENT

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Defenses

1. The only defenses on the Russian side of the demarcation line east of Wittlingen (X-06) to a depth of 3 kms are foxholes (Schützenlocher) of no tactical value. They are presumably for the use of the frontier guards.
2. Many of the roads leading westwards towards the demarcation line in the Harz mountains are blocked by felled trees. Foxholes and slit trenches (Grabenstummel) were observed north and south of Schierke (D-05) and Elend (D-05). Near Elend railway station between ten and fifteen 37mm. guns were observed in a large barn. These guns were of light construction and had approximately a two meter long barrel.
3. No defenses were observed along the Elbe river, and [redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] no defenses have been constructed along the river in the Domnitzsch (E-55) and Pretzsch (E-45) areas. 50X1-HUM
4. [redacted]
a simple system of defense trenches some two kms in depth has been constructed between Aussig (F-44) and Bodenbach (F-56). 50X1-HUM

Order of Battle and Troop Movements in the Halle Area

5. There are two main tank concentrations, in the Halle-Köthen area (D-95) and in the Lausitz Forest between Torgau (E-64) and Lausitz (E-93).
6. Tanks were observed being moved into the Köthen area. These tanks are said to have come from the Eichsfeld (C-51) and Erfurt areas.
7. On 16 August 1946 [redacted] motorized artillery, motorized heavy anti-tank guns, and motorized Stalin Organs arrived by rail from the Berlin area and were unloaded at a point west of Köthen. Some Stalin Organs remained on board the flat cars.
8. [redacted] approximately 200 T-34's and Katyushka rocket launchers are stationed in the former AA barracks at Halle - Wormitz.

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9. To the west of the railway line at Furstenberg station (U-62), there is a large POL dump in the woods. POL is stacked into squares of 100 drums each. Approximately 4,000 drums are visible from the railway.

Maneuvers

10. Exercises involving tanks, engineers, and reconnaissance troops were observed by a local informant in the woods between Magdeburg and Bitterfeld (E-14) during the first week of August 1946. The village of Mosigkau (E-06) was evacuated and used as a target for the artillery fire.
11. The ex-Wehrmacht training area at Ohrdruf (J-15) is now being used by the Soviet Army.
12. [redacted] large-scale maneuvers in progress in Lausitz Forest in mid-August 1946. 50X1-HUM
13. Numerous heavy tank tracks have been observed in the vicinity. They appear to be larger than the tracks made by the T-34.

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